



"GATEWAY TO **DEATH!**"

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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

JUNE
NO. 202

12¢

BATMAN



COMING YOUR WAY--A NEW DC BRAND



SECRET SIX

12 JULY NO. 2



"PLUNDER THE PENTAGON!"

NEVER FORGET...I CONTROL YOUR LIVES...YOUR VERY EXISTENCE! WHEN MOCKINGBIRD COMMANDS...YOU OBEY!



A BRAND NEW CHALLENGE FOR

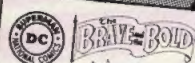
The BRAVE and the BOLD



YOU COULDN'T STOP at 1...

WAIT TILL YOU SEE

NO. 2



THE BRAVE and the BOLD

JULY NO. 78 12



BATMAN AND WONDER WOMAN
just-starring
BATGIRL



"IN THE COILS OF COPPERHEAD!"

BATMAN

With ROBIN The Boy Wonder

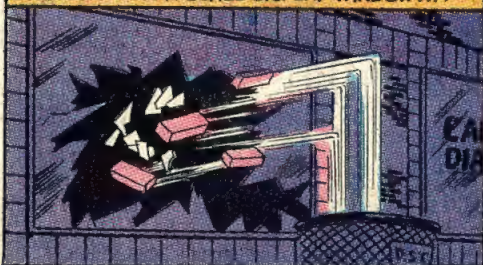
"GATEWAY TO DEATH!"

BOB KANE

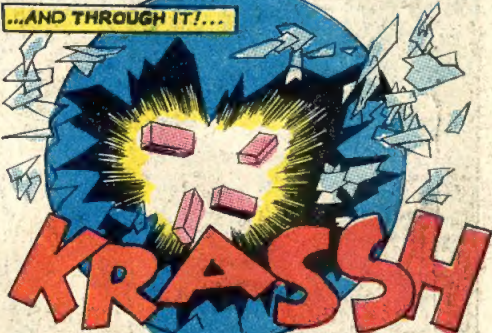
A POLICEMAN'S POUNDING OF A BEAT ALONG GOTHAM CITY'S "DIAMOND ROW" STOPS SHORT! INCREDULOUS EYES STARE AT BRICKS THAT RISE OUT OF A TRASH-BIN!...



AS IF BY SOME EERIE ENCHANTMENT, THE BRICKS MAKE A RIGHT-ANGLE TURN--AND SPEED STRAIGHT FOR A GLASS DISPLAY WINDOW!...



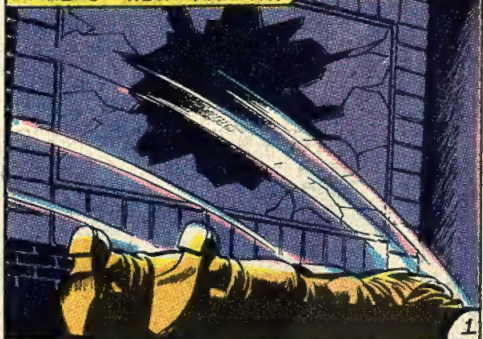
...AND THROUGH IT!...



STOP, THIEF--WHOEVER AND WHEREVER YOU ARE!



SUDDENLY--LEGS STIFFEN! A GASP OF DESPAIR RIPS THE THROAT--AND THE POLICE OFFICER PLUNGES GROUNDWARD!...



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BRIEF MINUTES LATER, THE BATMOBILE PULLS UP BEFORE THE CARTER DIAMOND COMPANY...

THERE'S THE REASON FOR THE TRIPPED BURGLAR ALARM, ROBIN!

A BROKEN GLASS DISPLAY WINDOW--AND A POLICEMAN SPRAWLED OUT ON THE SIDEWALK!

YOU ALL RIGHT, OFFICER?

NOT TOO BAD PHYSICALLY, BATMAN-- BUT MENTALLY I'M A WRECK!

I TRIED TO STOP SOME BRICKS FROM CRASHING THROUGH THAT WINDOW--WHEN I FELT LIKE I WAS HIT BY:ER: A TON OF BRICKS!

DID YOU SEE THE CROOK WHO HEAVED THOSE BRICKS, OFFICER?

NO ONE THREW 'EM, ROBIN --

THEY J-JUST ROSE UP--AND FLUNG THEMSELVES THROUGH THAT WINDOW!

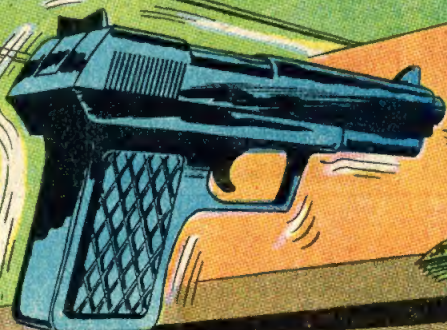
THAT'S WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF! ANOTHER OF THOSE GHOSTLY CRIMES THAT'S HAUNTED GOTHAM CITY LATELY!

FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALS...

WHILE OFFICER JACKSON WAS OUT COLD ON THE SIDEWALK--THE "PSYCHIC PLUNDERER" CAME IN HERE AND STRIPPED THE SAFE CLEAN!

THIS IS ALMOST AS INCREDIBLE AS HIS LAST ROBBERY, WHEN A GUN HUNG IN EMPTY AIR POINTING AT A BANK TELLER...

"AND A DISEMBODIED VOICE ORDERED HIM TO SHOVE THE MONEY OUT ON THE COUNTER... THEN PROMPTLY DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT!..."



SHORTLY, IN THE BATCAVE...

I--I FEEL LIKE **ROBIN** IN PUZZLELAND, **BATMAN**! HOW ELSE CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHY THERE ARE NO FINGER-PRINTS ON THE BRICKS--NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF BODY-HEAT?

WELL, ONE TASTY EXPLANATION--EVEN IF IT'S HARD TO SWALLOW--IS THAT THE THIEF HAS THE **POWER OF MIND OVER MATTER!**



TO ONE SIDE OF THE **DYNAMIC DUO**, THEIR FAITHFUL BUTLER **ALFRED** TURNS ASHEN...

BRICKS--HURLING THEMSELVES THROUGH THE AIR?! **MIND--OVER MATTER!**

THIS IS **TERRIBLE!** IT IS A DIFFICULT CHOICE, BUT I MUST TELL...



BEGGING YOUR PARDON, SIR! I--I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU!

WHAT'S THAT, **ALFRED**? HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

I **ER** BELIEVE **ER** I KNOW WHO THE **PSYCHIC PLUNDERER** IS!

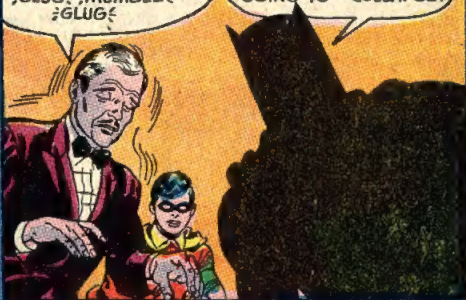
DON'T KEEP US IN SUSPENSE, **ALFRED**! WHO IS HE?



SUDDENLY, THE NORMALLY PLACID FEATURES OF THE ENGLISHMAN CONTORT IN A NERVOUS SPASM AS...

H-HIS NAME **GLUG** MUMBLE **GLUG**

GOOD GOSH! HE'S GOING TO--COLLAPSE!



UHHN

HE'S KEELED OVER! BUT WHAT--?

LOOKS LIKE HE WAS BATTLING TO GET THE WORDS OUT--AND LOST!



AS IF IN A TRAUMATIC COMA, **ALFRED** STRUGGLES TO SPEAK--TONGUE THICK, HIS WHISPERING BARELY AUDIBLE...

GROAN BOMB--BURST GASP SAVED LIFE PANT

HE'S IN BAD SHAPE! WE'D BETTER GET HIM UPSTAIRS TO HIS ROOM!



E-E-ETERNAL G-G-GATE....

WHAT'S HE TRYING TO TELL US NOW?

FIRST THINGS FIRST, ROBIN! LET'S GET HIM TO BED AND PHONE MY DOCTOR!

BY THE TIME THE DOCTOR HAS COME AND GONE, THE **CAPED CRUSADERS** HAVE CHANGED INTO THEIR CIVILIAN ROLES OF **BRUCE WAYNE**, **MILLIONAIRE**, AND HIS WARD, **DICK GRAYSON**...

IF **ALFRED'S** HAD AN EMOTIONAL SHOCK, AS THE DOCTOR SAYS, WHAT CAUSED IT?

SOME-THING ABOUT OUR CONVERSATION IN THE **BATCAVE** TRIGGERED OFF A RECOLLECTION OF A HECTIC MOMENT OUT OF HIS PAST WHEN SOME-BODY SAVED **ALFRED'S** LIFE!

WHICH SOMEHOW CAUSED HIM TO SUFFER A SHATTERING, MENTAL BOMB-BURST!

SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW? **ALFRED** DIDN'T GIVE US ANY CLUE TO WORK ON--UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT AN "ETERNAL GATE" IS!

WE GET BACK INTO OUR COSTUMES--AND GO TO THE CEMETERY!

THE CEMETERY!?! DON'T TELL ME **ALFRED** IS GOING TO--

NO, NO! NOTHING LIKE THAT! THE ONLY **ETERNAL GATE** I KNOW IS A CEMETERY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN!

SOON AFTERWARD, IN THE NIGHT-MISTS THAT SHROUD THE **ETERNAL GATE CEMETERY**...

IT'S A CREEPY FEELING--LOOKING FOR OUR QUARRY HERE--

--WHEN WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO HE IS--OR EVEN WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!

THROUGH THE CHILL FOG THAT DRAPES TOMBSTONE AND MAUSOLEUM, THE DYNAMIC DUO PENETRATES DEEPER AMONG THE HEADSTONES--UNTIL ...

WH-WHAT WAS THAT, BATMAN? IT FELT LIKE THE CHILL OF DEATH!

IT...WAS...ROBIN!

BATMAN!
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?

THERE'S NOBODY AROUND--
NOTHING COULD HAVE
STRUCK YOU DOWN...

EXCEPT--THAT
CHERUB ON TOP OF THAT
HEADSTONE!

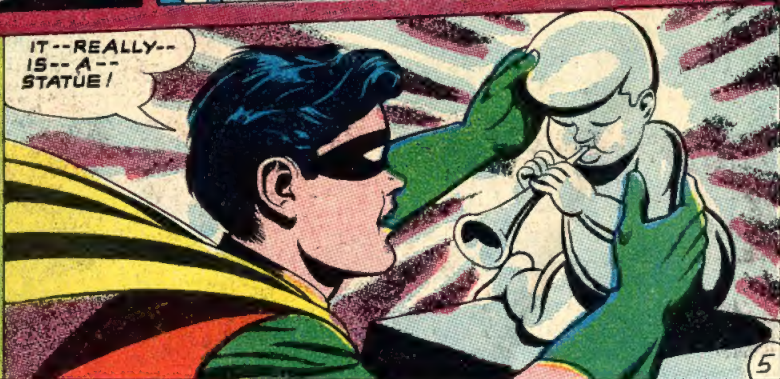
UNLESS--IT ISN'T A
STATUE--AND BLEW A
POISONED DART THROUGH
THAT "PIPE" OF HIS!

HIS
FACE CONTOURED WITH
MINGLED GRIEF AND RAGE, HIS
VISION BLURRED BY THE TEARS
OF UNCONTROLLED EMOTIONS,
THE TEEN TITAN HURLS
HIMSELF LIKE A HUMAN
CATAPULT...

I'LL GET YOU
FOR THIS!

BUT--HIS FRANTIC
FINGERS GRIP
ONLY CLAMMY, COLD
STONE! HIS EYES
STARE UP AT
CARVEN, LIFELESS
FEATURES! AND HIS HEART
HAMMERS
FIERCELY IN
RESPONSE TO
GRIM REALITY...

IT--REALLY--
IS--A--
STATUE!



DAZED--SCARCELY CREDITING HIS OWN SENSES--THE BOY WONDER DROPS TO A KNEE ALONGSIDE BATMAN AND...

OKAY...OKAY...
STOP...SHAKING
...ME!

BATMAN!
YOU'RE--
ALIVE! BUT--
WHAT HIT YOU?

PROBABLY THE SAME
EVIL FORCE THAT
STRUCK THE
POLICEMAN EARLIER
TONIGHT!



**DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING--
SEE ANYTHING?**

NO--WHICH INDICATES
THE "BLOW" CAME
FROM BEHIND--WHERE
THAT GRAVESTONE
CHERUB IS!

THAT'S WHAT
I THOUGHT--
BUT IT'S A STONE
STATUE! I
CHECKED IT
OUT!



**BUT YOU NEVER THOUGHT
TO CHECK OUT THOSE FOOT-
PRINTS ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE STATUE, EH?**

THEY INDICATE
A SMALL-SIZED
FELLOW WAS
HIDDEN BEHIND
IT--MADE HIS
SNEAK ATTACK
ON YOU--AND
THEN RACED OFF!



**TRAINED IN OBSERVATION, ALERT TO SEE AND RECOGNIZE ANY TELLTALE CLUE AND SIGN, THEY
TREAD THROUGH THE RAW FOG...**

HE CAME THIS WAY, ALL RIGHT--
THERE'S HIS DIRT-FOOTPRINT OUTLINED
ON THE CEMETERY WALK!

HOW MUCH FURTHER
BEFORE WE MAKE
CONTACT?



TEN YARDS FURTHER--THE TRAIL ENDS ABRUPTLY!....

H-HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE INTO
THAT MAUSOLEUM, COULD HE?

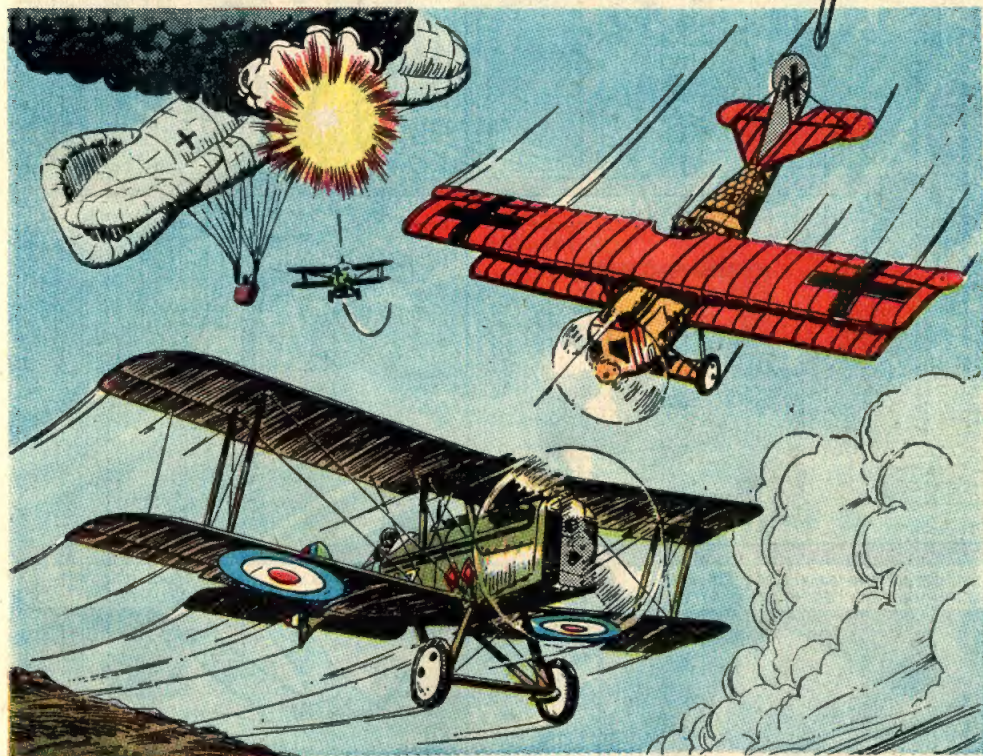
IF HE DIDN'T--HOW COME
HIS FOOTPRINT ENDS IN
FRONT OF THE DOOR?

WE BETTER BE
PREPARED TO COPE
WITH--WHATEVER
WE FIND INSIDE!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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(above right) FOKKER D-7 wingspan, 18½"

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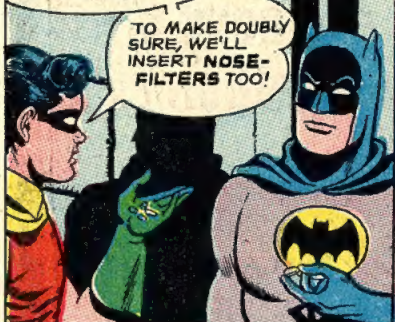


WHOEVER OR
WHATEVER KNOCKED
ME OUT--MAY HAVE
USED A HIGH-PITCHED
SOUND INAUDIBLE
TO HUMAN EARS!

TO GUARD
AGAINST THAT
HAPPENING
AGAIN--WE'LL
INSERT
EAR-PLUGS!

THERE'S ALSO A
CHANCE IT WAS A
KNOCK-OUT GAS!

TO MAKE DOUBLY
SURE, WE'LL
INSERT NOSE-
FILTERS TOO!



THEN--RUSTED IRON HINGES CREAK IN THE STILLNESS
OF THE NIGHT AS...

THIS MAUSOLEUM WAS BUILT
BY WEALTHY TYRONE BENNETT
FOR HIMSELF AND HIS WIFE--
BUT SO FAR IT HASN'T HAD
TO BE USED...

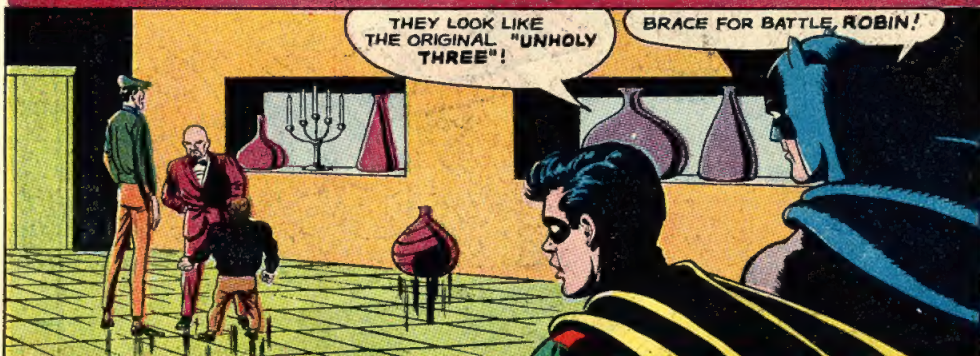
LOOK,
ROBIN!

WHEW!!



THEY LOOK LIKE
THE ORIGINAL "UNHOLY
THREE"!

BRACE FOR BATTLE, ROBIN!



SUDDENLY THE SMALLEST OF THE
TERRIBLE TRIO OPENS HIS MOUTH...



AND A SCREECH UNDETECTABLE BY
HUMAN EARS ECHOES THROUGHOUT
THE CHAMBER...

THEIR EAR-PLUGS SAFEGUARDING THEM AGAINST THE
SUPER-SONIC SCREAM, THE MASKED MANHUNTERS
HURTLE FORWARD...



BATMAN
WAS RIGHT!
THE DWARF'S
SENDING OUT
SOME SORT
OF SOUND-
WAVE AT US!

EXHAUSTED BY HIS EFFORT, THE LITTLE MAN SAGS WEAKLY AGAINST A WALL AS...

PANT: NORMAN--TWO YELLS LIKE THAT WITHIN AN HOUR
PANT: AND I'M--BEAT!

I'LL TAKE OVER!

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET, MAN AND BOY REACH THEIR TARGETS...

THAT UPPERCUT OUGHT TO MAKE HIM TAKE HIS MIND OFF HIS WORK!

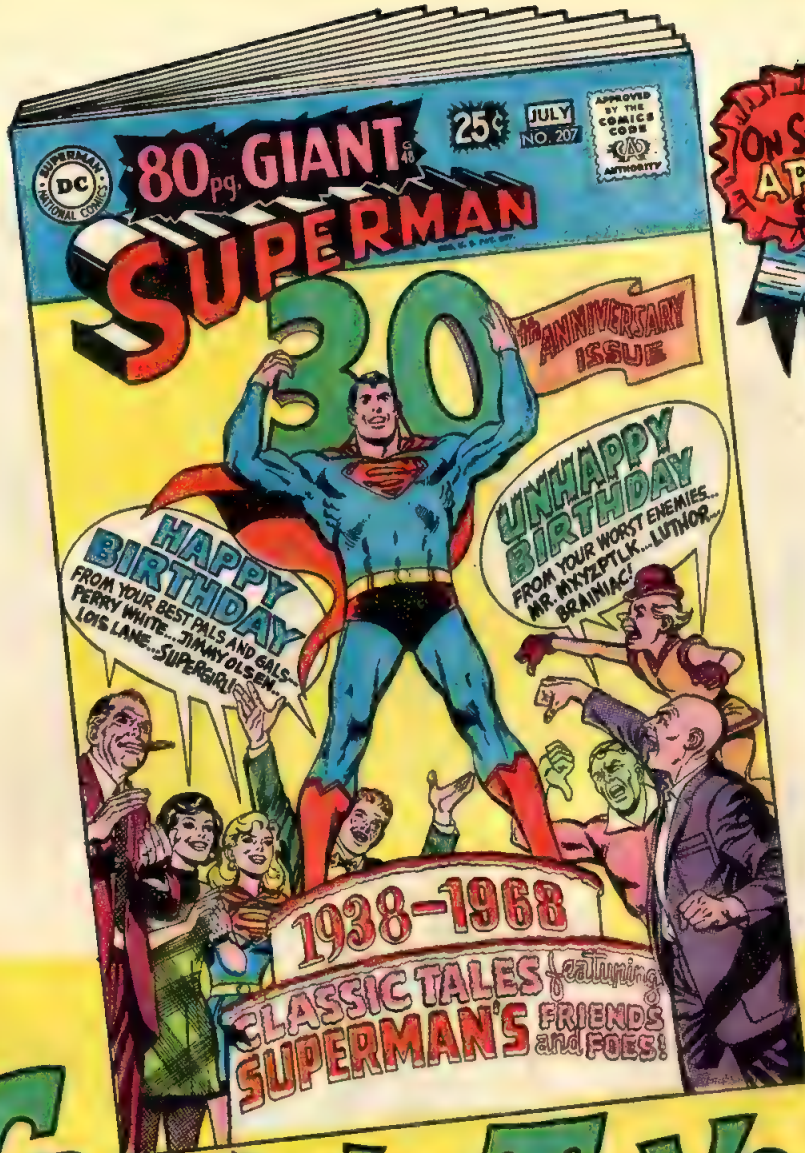
I'LL HANDLE THE LITTLE GUY--HE'S MORE MY SIZE!

FROM WALL NICHE AND FLOOR, STONE URNS AND BRONZE JARS LEAP THROUGH THE AIR AT THE ONCOMING DYNAMIC DUO...

JUST LIKE THOSE FLYING BRICKS!

DOES THAT MAN REALLY POSSESS MIND-OVER-MATTER POWER?

CONTINUED ON 282 PAGE FOLLOWING.



FROM US--TO YOU,
ONLY THE BEST!

HAVE TO KEEP BOTH
HANDS BUSY--

FIGHTING OFF TWO
THREATS AT A TIME!



SUDDENLY...

THAT HEAVY
STONE JAR...
CAME OUT OF
NOWHERE...!

HOW TO JAR YOU
ONE, BATMAN--
ON MY OWN!



TO ONE SIDE OF THE
COWLED CRUSADER...

YOU MAY BE THE SOUND...
BUT I'M THE FURY!



AMID THE SOUNDS OF SOCK-STRUGGLE AND FISTIC FRAY-- THE THIRD MEMBER OF THE TRIO
LIFTS A GLASS VIAL...

I'LL SLOW THEM DOWN...
IN A HURRY!





GAS!

I WAS RIGHT ABOUT
OUR NEED FOR EAR-
PLUGS -- BUT ROBIN
GETS A GOLD STAR
FOR COMING UP WITH
THE NOSE-FILTERS!

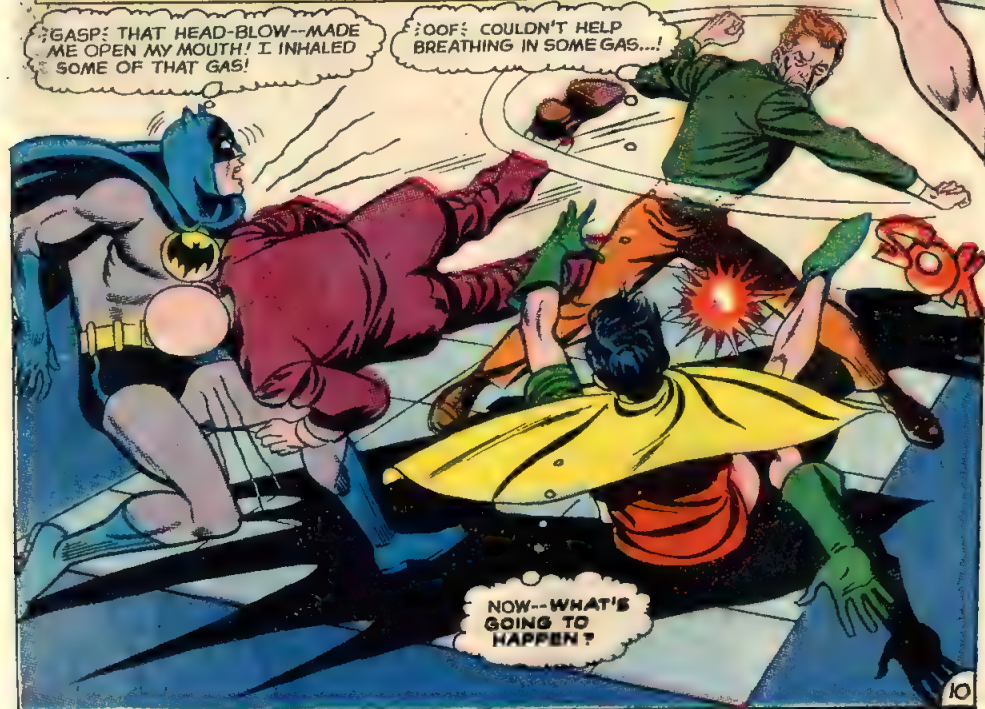


FEARLESSLY THE CRUSADERS RESUME THEIR ATTACK...

I'LL WRAP THIS UP
REAL FAST, NOW!

THE BIGGER THEY ARE --
THE HARDER THEY FALL!
AND THAT GUY'S BIG
ENOUGH TO TAKE A LONG
TIME FALLING!

THEN--WITH THE STARTLING SUDDENNESS OF AN EXPLOSION!



GASP! THAT HEAD-BLOW--MADE
ME OPEN MY MOUTH! I INHALED
SOME OF THAT GAS!

OOOF! COULDN'T HELP
BREATHING IN SOME GAS...!

NOW--WHAT'S
GOING TO
HAPPEN?

THE AMAZING ANSWER COMES LIKE A THUNDERCLAP OF DOOM!...

MY REFLEXES HAVE SLOWED DOWN--
MAKING HIM LOOK LIKE A SPEED
DEMON!

IT'S LIKE I
WERE FIGHTING
UNDERWATER!

NOW--WHILE OUR NOSE-
FILTERS PROTECT US FROM
THE GAS --

I'M SLOW AS
MOLASSES!

HITTING ME LIKE
A PUNCHING BAG...!

GOT TO FIGURE
OUT A WAY TO
TURN MY
HELPLESSNESS
TO MY ADVANTAGE...
OR AT LEAST TO
ROBIN'S!

A FIST THAT SEEMS TO BLUR
WITH SUPER-SPEED SENDS
THE CAPED CRIME-
FIGHTER REELING BACKWARDS.

HE LANDED A
BLOCKBUSTER--CAN ANGLE
THAT TIME!
NOW IF I
JUST RIGHT!

IT WORKED! I KNOCKED
THE THIN MAN
INTO ROBIN'S FIST!

EVEN AS BATMAN DROPS TO THE FLOOR, IT IS
THE TURN OF THE SLOW-MOVING ROBIN TO BECOME
THE TARGET OF FAST-MOVING FISTS...

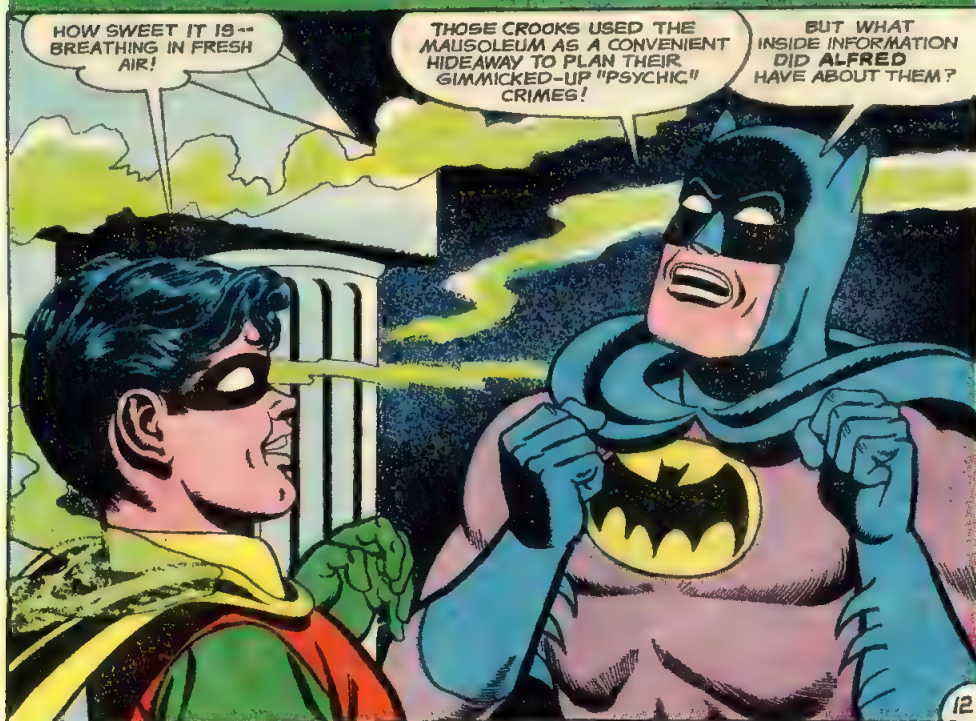
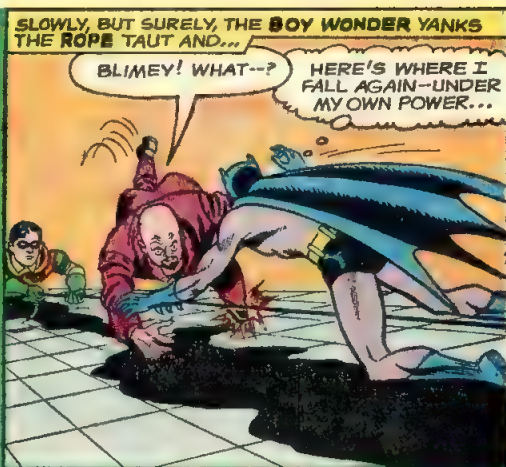
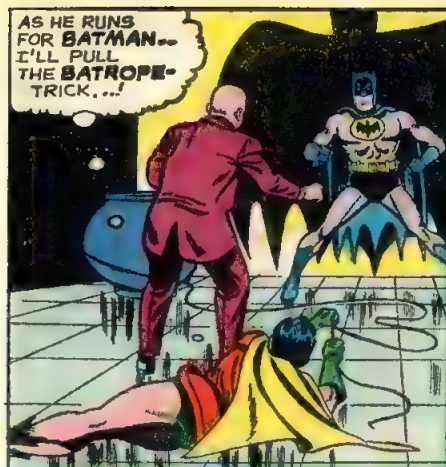
WHILE THAT THUG'S BACK IS
TO ME--I'LL CRAWL TO
THAT HEAVY STONE JAR...
KNOT MY BATROPE TO IT...

ROBIN'S IN
POSITION TO
SEE WHAT
I'M UP TO...

WHAT? BATMAN
STILL ON HIS FEET?

GOOD! WHEN HE COMES
AFTER ME--

ROBIN WILL DO
HIS BIT--I HOPE!



LATER, AT A RECOVERING
ALFRED'S BEDSIDE...

AS YOU KNOW, BEFORE I
CAME TO THE STATES, I
WAS AN ENTERTAINER
IN THE ENGLISH MUSIC
HALLS. THERE I MET A
"MIND-OVER-MATTER"
MAGICIAN NAMED THE
GREAT NORMAN, WHO
MADE OBJECTS--LIKE
BRICKS--FLY ACROSS
THE STAGE!

ALTHOUGH, I'M
SURE IT WAS
WORKED WITH
PROPS, I
NEVER DID
LEARN JUST
HOW HE DID
IT...

DURING A NAZI AIR-
RAID IN WORLD WAR II,
NORMAN SAVED
MY LIFE FROM A
BOMB-EXPLOSION...

AFTER THE WAR, I LOST TRACK OF
NORMAN--TILL A FEW DAYS AGO WHEN I
SAW HIM IN THE ETERNAL GATE CEMETERY.
WHILE VISITING MY FATHER'S* GRAVE, I
ATTEMPTED TO FOLLOW HIM, BUT LOST
HIM IN THE MISTS...

*ALFRED'S FATHER--JARVIS
SERVED AS BUTLER TO
BRUCE WAYNE'S FATHER!

OVERHEARING YOUR TALK ABOUT
FLYING BRICKS AND MIND OVER
MATTER, I SUDDENLY REALIZED
NORMAN WAS THE SO-CALLED
PSYCHIC PLUNDERER!

IT WAS A
TOUGH
DECISION
TO MAKE,
ALFRED!
WHAT
PROMPTED
YOU TO
BETRAY
NORMAN?

I OWED HIM MY LIFE...
BUT I ALSO OWED IT
TO NORMAN TO MAKE
HIM SEE THE FOLLY
OF HIS CRIMINAL
WAYS! I EXPECT A
TERM IN PRISON WILL
DO JUST THAT--AND
HE'LL BE REHABILITATED!

LET'S HOPE
SO, ALFRED--
FOR HIS
SAKE AND
YOURS!

I WAS IN MENTAL
TORMENT! NORMAN
SAVED MY LIFE --
AND YET HE WAS
A LAW-BREAKER!
I DECIDED TO
TELL YOU...
ONLY TO BE
UNABLE TO
STAND THE
EMOTIONAL
STRAIN...

THE END

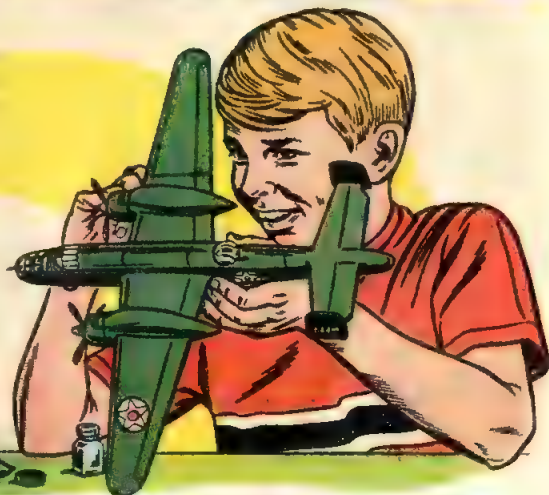
APRIL, 1968

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Model of the Month



Dear Editor:

I have been reading (and purchasing, of course) your magazines for some time and now I feel it is time to confess something that may be on many readers' minds. I do not know one human being that confesses to reading comics. I may not know the right people but when I mentioned enjoying *Batman* comics to my fellow students at college they either laughed or gave me a weird look. I am writing this letter to defend myself and others who are "ashamed" about reading *Batman*.

After thoroughly enjoying the February, number 199, issue of *Batman*, I felt a certain sensation which I must attribute to your publication. First I must say I was thrilled at having a three-story issue; and each story was very enjoyable. I do want to get away from my main point which is that we live in a very horrid world. This is not a new statement but I feel that many people wish that they could "do something about it". What can we do? Join groups. Okay. Contribute money to charity. Right. But can we all run to *Vietnam*? If so, what would we do? Kill more people, right? Sure, kill people to make it a better world.

Batman and *Robin* do what we want to do. The two fighters fight without killing. The law breakers are more often than not punished. Will this save the world? Of course not. My point is that we get a small satisfaction by living in *Batman's* world each month. For a little while the readers that desire it can feel the evil being crushed. It is not all fantasy; that is the beauty of it. There really are crooks, spies, and cruel-warped people. *Batman's* plots are quite possible. Why not? What if all the "brains" I knew from school had also been the "brawn" I also knew? What if they had built a custom-made car? What if this brilliant person had devoted all his talents to one subject: Criminology? Now find a very high-crime area—will *New York* do? Okay, now let the police appreciate his aid and we have the makings of a *real Batman*. I am just backing up the probability of this concept which everyone scorns.

Maybe a *real "Batman"* would not wear his costume. Maybe not one crook would dress like some of *Batman's* foes. Maybe a *real "Batman"* would not have a young adolescent with him. But what would *Batman* be without his costume? Just as admirable but not as sexy. Some criminals dress flashy and most crooks are mentally ill so weird clothes can be accepted. And I say this with a very firm statement: *Batman* without *Robin*? Forget it! I get no kicks. In regard to the *Duo's* "uniform" (as quoted in No. 199), if I were to fight crime (Ah, dream) I would most certainly try to look my snazziest, and black tights (or grey, or flesh) are much more comfortable than slacks anyway.

I suppose this letter is too long to be printed and probably not worth your time either, but I wanted to let someone know that *Batman* and *Robin* are the best "escapism" on the market today and that I will always be a fan.

—Alice Herman, Richmond Hill, N.Y.
(A lengthy letter that affords such sheer enjoyment (especially to ye editor) definitely demands the time and space for this fan's entire message. Incidentally, we must confess it was with quite a jolt that we came upon the female signature at the letter's end!—Editor)

Dear Editor:

It has seemed to me through years past that you always strive to start each new year off on the right foot and with the February *Batman* you have succeeded easily.

I think Carmine Infantino-Murphy Anderson did an okay job on the cover, even though some may think the theme a trifle ludicrous. I liked the way *Batman Comics* was explained in the story as it made the cover scene more plausible. Both of the new stories this issue were really great *Batman-Robin* tales in the style that all true *Batman* fans would like to see more of. I've a feeling that we are in store for a lot more stories of this calibre.

Bob Kane's art was also up to par, and on a few instances superior to his recent work. If only you would let Sid Greene ink Bob's pencils, I'm sure you would be pleased with the results (as I'm sure many readers would).

"Operation Escape" was a great story for "escape" fans. I didn't figure out how to escape from the dungeon the same way *Robin* did, but at least I found out a way that would have worked which was similar to his.

—Dave Truesdale, St. Paul, Minn.
(You got 50% of your wish with this issue's "Gateway to Death"—Sid Greene flavored Bob Kane's pencils in his highly appetizing style.—Editor)

Dear Editor:

The latest *Batman* cover, depicting *Batman* desperately seeking a copy of the latest *Batman Comics*, poses some very interesting questions.

Was the issue he was looking for the same as that in which he looked for it? If not, what was it? The other DC comics shown on the cover are current issues. Or is there a special *Gotham City* edition of *Batman Comics*? If so, are there special *Central City* editions of *Flash Comics* and *Ivy Town* editions of *The Atom*? Something like that could drive completists out of their minds! And if it is the same edition, what would stop a villain from finding out all his secrets by reading it? Or are they just plain dull-witted? This does not make *Batman* look too great outwitting them! Even so, how could *Rembrandt Dickens* write and draw the various titles without knowing these secrets? And what about *Gardner Fox* (no one else could write a story like that) and *Bob Kane*? Do they exist, or are they merely minor characters, created by *Dickens*, that appear in the *Gotham City* edition? Are they villains too? Indeed, dear editor—do you yourself exist? You must; I've seen you! But how do I know you aren't really *Rembrandt Dickens*? Does his arrest mean the end of the entire line of DC comics? If so, what happens to *Batman* himself? Does he cease to "exist" with the discontinuation of his magazine?

These and other questions can be resolved only by refusing to acknowledge the existence of this issue of *Batman*. This leads to serious gaps in one's collection; very serious gaps. Years later, when looking back over stacks of old *Batman* comics, and running across this incredibly blatant anomaly, the collector is likely to ask "Just what was *Batman* #199 anyway?"

—Donald D. Markstein, New Orleans, La.
(From the way you asked, it was obviously a questionable issue!—Editor)

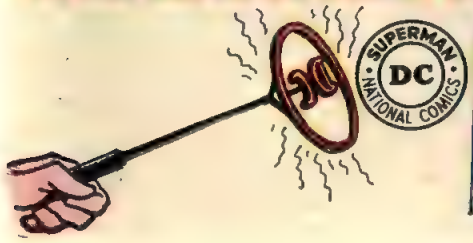
(Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y., 10022)

COMING YOUR WAY...A NEW DC BRAND



A BRAND NEW FLASH YOU'VE NEVER KNOWN BEFORE!

BRAND NEW AS TOMORROW'S HEADLINES!



ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

YOU HAVE READ ABOUT THEIR ANTICS IN THE NEWSPAPERS! YOU HAVE SEEN THEM RUN RIOT ON TV NEWSCASTS! YOU HAVE WATCHED THEM IN MOVIES!

THEY HAVE BECOME A NOTORIOUS LEGEND IN THEIR OWN TIME! WHEN THESE HOG-WILD ANGELS OF ANARCHY INVADDED GOTHAM CITY THEY WERE BOUND TO CROSS THE PATH OF ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!



AN EARLY FALL EVENING IN WAYNE MANOR FINDS A SURPRISED BRUCE (BATMAN) WAYNE...

DICK GRAYSON...
WHAT'S THIS?!

WELL, LOOK AT YOU! DON'T SEE YOU DRESSED UP IN A SUIT VERY OFTEN!

WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
A BIG DATE TONIGHT?

'FRAID NOT! I'M ONE OF THE NOMINEES FOR THE JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENCY AND WE'RE HOLDING A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE CANDIDATES' PEP SPEECHES-- TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE ELECTION!

I SURE WANT TO WIN THAT ELECTION! BECAUSE OF MY ROBIN DUTIES, I HAVEN'T BEEN AS ACTIVE AS I'D LIKE TO BE IN SCHOOL-- AND THIS'LL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE MORE...

I WISH YOU LUCK! I'LL GO ON PATROL ALONE, THEN!

LATER THAT EVENING, AS DICK IS SHORT-CUTTING THROUGH THE SCHOOL'S PARKING LOT...

THAT RACKET!
SOUNDS LIKE--

THE HORNETS--A WILD MOTORCYCLE GANG OF LOCAL HOODLUMS-- MODELED AFTER THE WEST COAST'S HELL'S ANGELS!

RRRAWWRR!

RRRRRAWWRR



I RECOGNIZED THE KID, LEADER--
TOMMY THE TRAMP! OUR PRINCIPAL,
MR. WAGNER, EXPELLED HIM LAST
MONTH BECAUSE OF HIS ROWDYISM
IN SCHOOL!



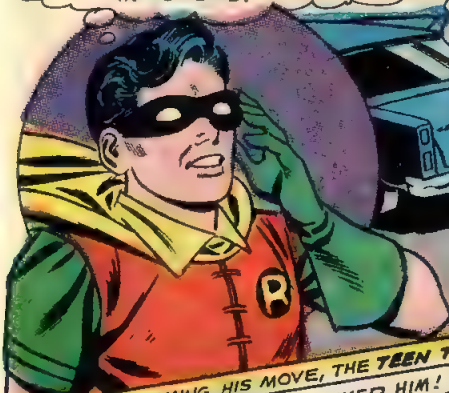
AFTER THE MOTORCYCLISTS PASS BY, DICK
DARTS BETWEEN TWO PARKED CARS AND...

PRETTY NEAT IDEA OF MINE,
DISGUIISING A COLLAPSIBLE
COSTUME AS A TIE-- AND
CARRYING COMPRESSIBLE
ACCESSORIES IN MY POCKETS!

AFTER HIDING HIS DISCARDED CLOTHES,
ROBIN DASHES ACROSS THE PARKING LOT...

HE MUST BE BACK--
WITH HIS GANG-- TO
GET A MISGUIDED
KIND OF "REVENGE"!

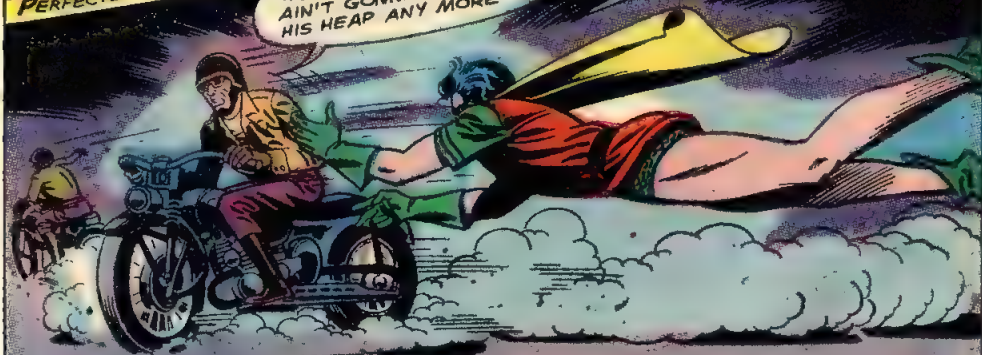
A LITTLE BIRD WILL
BE WAITING TO
SURPRISE THEM!



PERFECTLY TIMING HIS MOVE, THE **TEEN TITAN** LEAPS OUT AT A PASSING CYCLIST...

WE FIXED HIM! WAGNER
AIN'T GONNA BE USING
HIS HEAP ANY MORE--

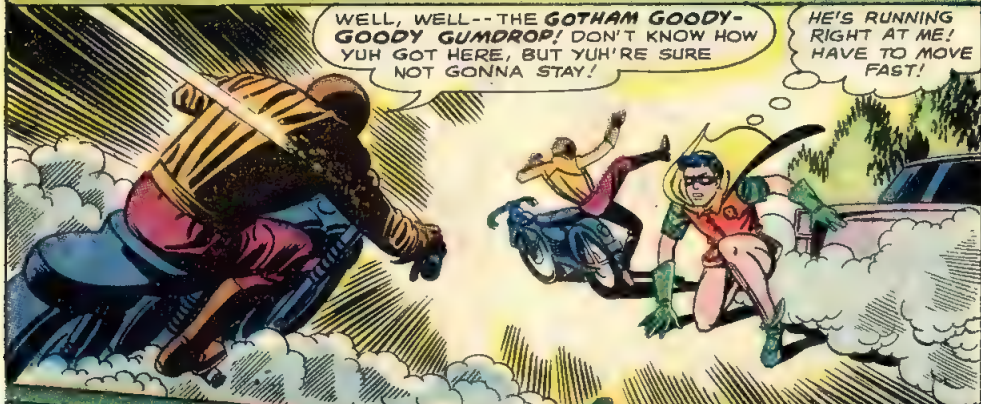
RIDE'S OVER--
END OF THE LINE!



AS THE CYCLIST SPILLS OUT, **ROBIN** BOUNCES UP FROM THE COLLISION TO FIND...

WELL, WELL-- THE **GOTHAM GOODY-GOODY GUMDROP!** DON'T KNOW HOW YUH GOT HERE, BUT YUH'RE SURE NOT GONNA STAY!

HE'S RUNNING RIGHT AT ME! HAVE TO MOVE FAST!



QUICKLY FLIPPING INTO THE AIR...

DON'T BE A PIG, TOMMY THE TRAMP-- LET ME HAVE THAT HOG!



ANOTHER RIDING ROUGHNECK CIRCLES BACK AND...

CAN'T LETCHA GET AWAY WITH BREAKIN' OUR RUN! THIS'LL DUMP YA!



JIMBO'S TURN NOW! I GOT SUMPIN' PERSONAL AGAINST ROBIN!

THAT GUY'S FOOT ALMOST PUT ME OUT FOR THE COUNT!

THIS ONE'S CLENCHED FIST LOOKS LIKE THE CLINCHER!

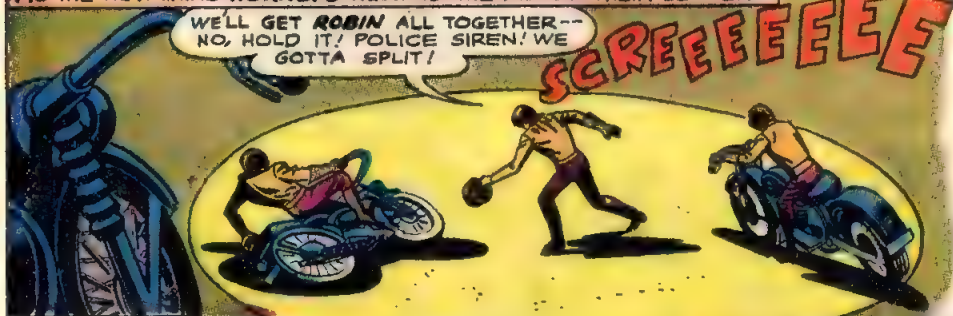




AS THE REMAINING **HORNETS** RUSH TO THE AID OF THEIR LEADER...

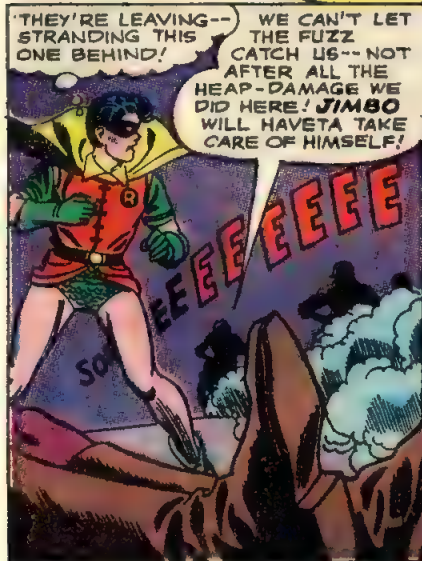
WE'LL GET **ROBIN** ALL TOGETHER--
NO, HOLD IT! POLICE SIREN! WE
GOTTA SPLIT!

SCREEEEEEEE



THEY'RE LEAVING--
STRANDING THIS
ONE BEHIND!

WE CAN'T LET
THE FUZZ
CATCH US-- NOT
AFTER ALL THE
HEAP-DAMAGE WE
DID HERE! **JIMBO**
WILL HAVETA TAKE
CARE OF HIMSELF!

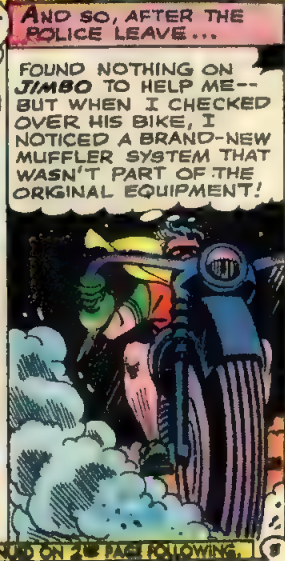


I'LL SEARCH **JIMBO**--
SEE IF I CAN FIND A
CLUE TO WHERE THE
HORNETS HANG OUT!
THEN I'LL USE HIS
BIKE TO GET THE
REST OF THE GANG!



AND SO, AFTER THE
POLICE LEAVE...

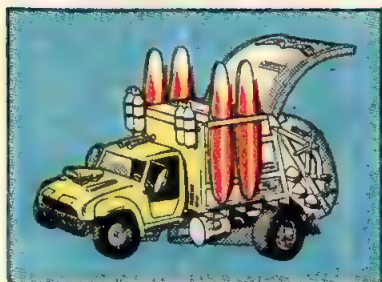
FOUND NOTHING ON
JIMBO TO HELP ME--
BUT WHEN I CHECKED
OVER HIS BIKE, I
NOTICED A BRAND-NEW
MUFFLER SYSTEM THAT
WASN'T PART OF THE
ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT!



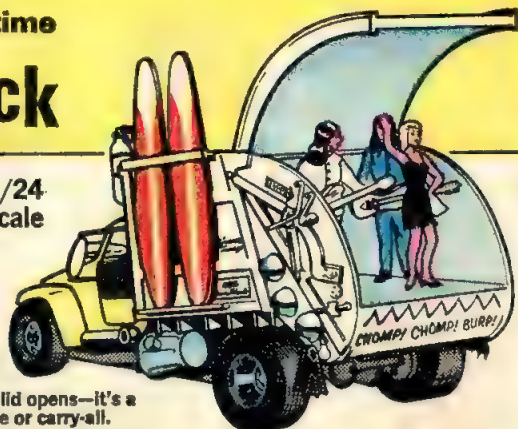
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1/24
Scale



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Morton Grove, Illinois



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BATMAN [★]SLIDE

~ FREE RIDE ~

CAROUSEL

SHORTLY, IN THE BATCAVE...

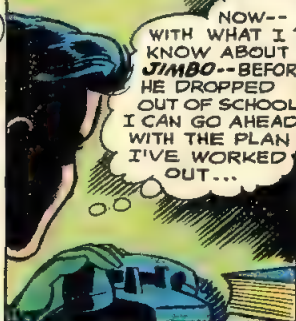
ACCORDING TO THE **YELLOW PAGES** OF THE **GOTHAM PHONEBOOK**, A HALF-DOZEN SHOPS SELL THOSE MUFFLERS!

I'LL PHONE THEM ONE BY ONE UNTIL I MAKE THE RIGHT CONNECTION...



HIT IT ON MY THIRD CALL! ONE OF THE OWNERS RECENTLY SOLD THAT MUFFLER- TYPE TO **JIMBO**--AND KNOWS **WHERE** HE HANGS OUT!

NOW-- WITH WHAT I KNOW ABOUT **JIMBO**--BEFORE HE DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL-- I CAN GO AHEAD WITH THE PLAN I'VE WORKED OUT...



FIRST A BEARD--THEN MESS UP MY HAIR TO GIVE ME **JIMBO'S** STRAGGLY APPEARANCE! AFTER THAT, SHOE-LIFTS TO GIVE ME ADDED HEIGHT...



SHORTLY...

THAT OUGHT TO FOOL HIS GANG! TOO BAD BRUCE IS STILL OUT ON PATROL AND CAN'T ADMIRE THIS DISGUISE!



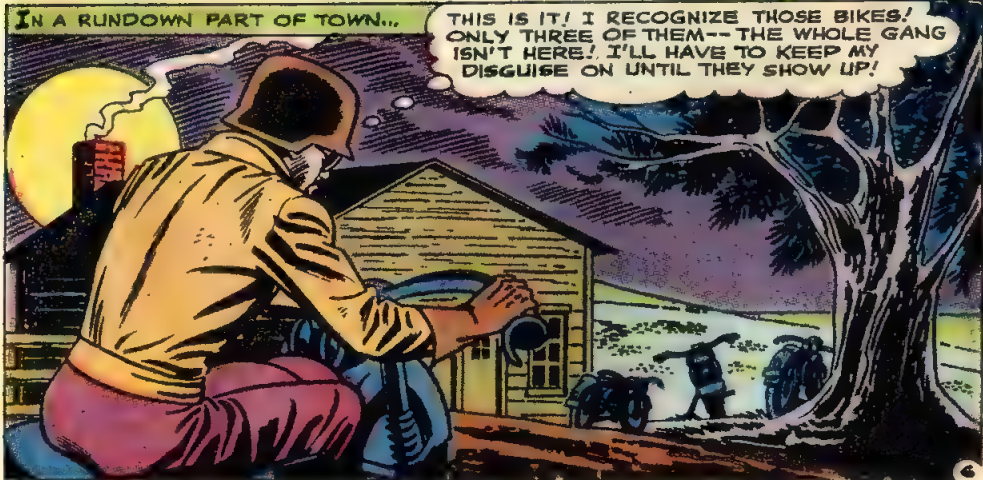
A CONCEALED HILLSIDE ENTRANCE OPENS UP AND OUT INTO THE BRISK NIGHT AIR COMES THE STRANGEST SIGHT EVER TO EXIT FROM THE **BATCAVE**...

HERE I GO INTO THE **HORNETS'** NEST--AND CATCH THEM UNAWARES!



IN A RUNDOWN PART OF TOWN...

THIS IS IT! I RECOGNIZE THOSE BIKES! ONLY THREE OF THEM-- THE WHOLE GANG ISN'T HERE! I'LL HAVE TO KEEP MY DISGUISE ON UNTIL THEY SHOW UP!



INSIDE...

HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
HOW'D YOU GET
AWAY, MAN? YOU
WERE OUT OF
IT WHEN WE
LEFT!

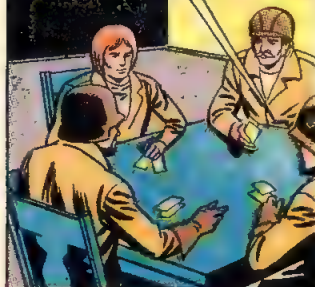
ROBIN
TURNED
HIS BACK
ON ME
AFTER I
CAME TO
AND I
BELTED
HIM! I GOT
AWAY JUST
BEFORE THE
FUZZ SHOWED!

TAKE THOSE
SHADES OFF,
JIMBO.. AND
TAKE A HAND
WHILE WE WAIT
FOR **TOMMY**
AND **MAGGOO**
TO MAKE THE
SCENE!

I **CAN'T**
TAKE
OFF MY
GLASSES--
I'VE GOT
MY **MASK**
ON
UNDER-
NEATH!

I'M KEEPIN'
THEM ON!
THESE SPECIAL
GLASSES ENABLE
ME TO SEE THE
MARKED
BACKS
OF THOSE CARDS!

FUNN--EE!



SOON AFTER...

HEY, THERE,
GANG! SAY,
OUR MAN'S
BACK!

THEY'RE HERE!
IT'S TIME FOR A
"HORNET" TO
CHANGE INTO A
"ROBIN"!



OKAY, **HORNETS**--
LET'S GET DOWN TO
BUZZ-NESS!



BEHIND THE UP-ENDED TABLE--A
RAPID RIPPING OFF OF A DISGUISE AND..

HE'S A **FAKE**!
HOW'D HE
GET IN?



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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- THE COIN LEAPING TRICK
- DISAPPEARING HANDKERCHIEF
- THE KNOT THAT UNTIES ITSELF
- THE DISAPPEARING COIN
- MAKING A BALL ROLL BY ITSELF
- MIRACLE CARD JUMPING TRICK
- THE PHANTOM MONEY TRICK, etc.

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GROGGILY, TOMMY THE TRAMP AND MAGOO HEAD FOR THE DOORWAY...

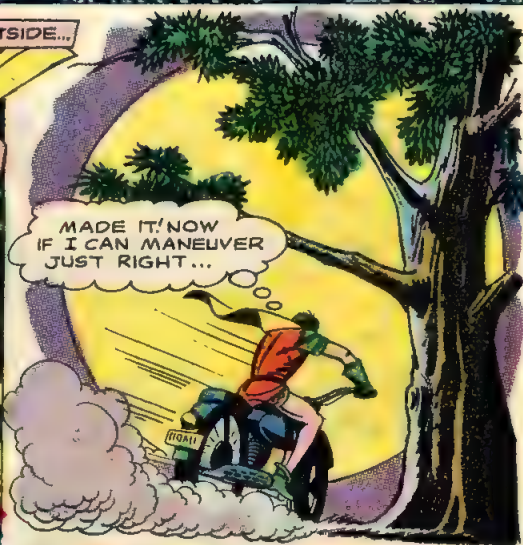


FOLLOWING THE FLEEING HORNETS OUTSIDE...

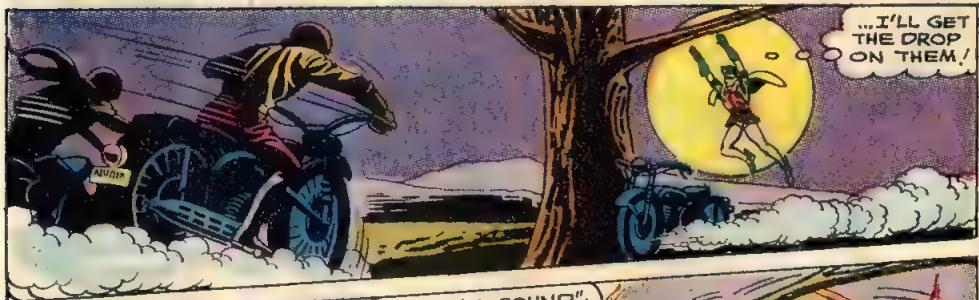
I'LL CUT ACROSS THE YARD AND CUT THOSE TWO OFF!



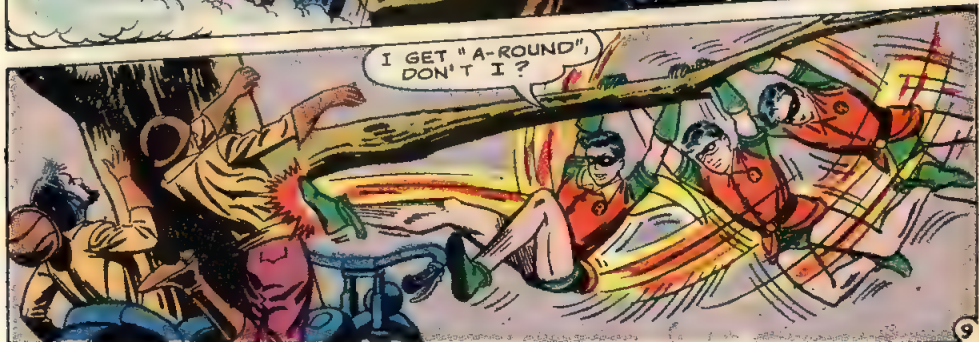
MADE IT! NOW IF I CAN MANEUVER JUST RIGHT...



...I'LL GET THE DROP ON THEM!



I GET "A-ROUND", DON'T I?



I'LL BAT-CUFF THEM AND CALL THE POLICE!

I WONDER IF THERE'S STILL TIME TO GET BACK IN TIME FOR MY SPEECH?

LATER THAT NIGHT, BACK IN WAYNE MANOR...

DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD, MASTER DICK! AFTER ALL, YOU HAVE JUST COMPLETED A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CASE! YOU SHOULD BE IN CHEERFUL SPIRITS!

YES, DICK, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I GOT INVOLVED WITH A GANG OF MOTORCYCLE MARAUDERS-- AND BEFORE I COULD GET BACK TO SCHOOL, THE SPEECHES WERE OVER! I LOST THE ELECTION...

COME ON, IT ISN'T ALL THAT BAD! AFTER ALL, OUR WORK DEMANDS SACRIFICES!

GET SOME SLEEP-- IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN THE MORNING!

SURE, BRUCE! I'LL BE OKAY...

THE END

LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE--EXTRA

Dear Editor:

In regard to one of your recent lettercols, it was stated by a fan that he was in deep mystery and wonderment (or words to that effect) as to why *Batman's* and *Robin's* eyepieces were white-colored. Fear not, Mr. Editor, for I have taken it upon myself to enlighten any and all who wish the answer and seek the truth. And so my story commences (for want of a better title, I shall call it: "The Great Eyepiece Mystery") . . .

It came to pass that a young lad, Bruce Wayne, was destined to become one of America's best-known and best-loved (also best-read?) crime-fighters—via the actions of a man known as Joe Chill. Now *Batman*, having one of the quicker minds, foresaw that many people would try and discover his secret identity (many of them being nefarious and unscrupulous persons who would gladly divulge this secret to the underworld or to the world at large for that matter, and think nothing of it).

So the *Gotham Guardian* decided that those people would take advantage of any slip-up he might possibly make in order to obtain his precious secret. After some thought, *Batman* concluded that one of the more noticeable clues to his identity would be the color of his eyes, for if Bruce Wayne ever got included in anyone's line-up of possible *Batmen*, then this might very well be the straw that broke the camel's back. To remedy this, he took immediate action. Now the gist of the story is this: *Batman* decided to fill in his eyelids (also *Robin's*, when he came along) with a two-way mirror type substance; in effect, he could easily see out—but from the outside, people would only see a blank, white surface—thus eliminating this particular hazard to his secret identity.

So this is my answer to "The Great Eyepiece Mystery." You may take it or leave it with a grain of salt, if you wish. In case anyone wonders whereof I got this information, it was so explained by ye editor a few years ago. I thank you—and good night.

—Chip Langlais, Cocoa Beach, Fla.

(So now when crooks want to gun down *Batman*, they don't shoot till they see the white of his eyes!—Editor)

Dear Editor:

This is a letter of thought, and no—I'm not pointing out some minor oversight, or praising or downgrading a story. I just want to tell you why I enjoy yours and many other DC comics. One reason is because I love the cleverness, and the adventurous originality behind the plots. In your mags, I can envision a world where right always triumphs. Regrettably, I must succumb to the fact that in this world it isn't always so. I can also see a world where, although it still has men full of hate, distrust, deviated minds and murderous malignance, for every

one there's a man of insight, men of virtue and ethics who would face any danger for the things they believe in.

I never buy other brands of comics on the stands because I'm so let down reading them—they seem as just a blot in the bright light of your fame. If it weren't for *Batman*, *Detective Comics*, and so many of your other mags, I think I'd got *Batty*! (No pun intended.) Your mags help a teenager forget his or her problems. I can't tell you exactly why I wrote you this letter, but I guess it's because I thought for once you'd like to know exactly why we fans love and adore you and the comics you print.

—Sheila Horne, Baltimore, Md.

(The "Whys" you listed for reading DC comics, Sheila, are all wise ones!—Editor)

Dear Editor:

One of the many qualities in a *Batman* story is its realism. But, for many years the plausibility of *Batman* has been put, time and time again, to a test—which unfortunately the *Caped Crusader* has yet to pass. The situation is a familiar one: *Batman* is knocked senseless by his foe, tied up, and awakens to a torrent of abuse, ridicule, and outright bragging, as the villain taunts our hero before he commits him to death.

Going back a bit, we find that in *Batman* #192, the captive *Batman* had make-up on, disguised as one of Johnny Witts' henchmen. In other issues, his face was masked by his cowl. This, however, is beside the point, because in neither case did the villain make any attempt to unmask him, or discover his true identity. It amazes me why any criminal would not instinctively rip away *Batman's* mask, even before he tied him up. It would normally be the very first thing to do.

Secondly, like all his colleagues in crime, Johnny Witts put *Batman* in some crazy contraption, which is supposed to kill him. Why, why, why . . . would a smart crook like Witts (or any other smart crook) prefer this method of elimination instead of a simple bullet through the heart or head? Sure, it wouldn't be as dramatic, or as thrilling as some tricky trap, but if you want to be realistic, it would be a lot more dependable. After all, how many bullets through the heart has *Batman* survived in comparison with his record of "death-trap" escapes?

If *Gotham City's* local evil-doers are that clumsy, I can't see how *Batman* can ever lose.

—James D. Faix, Bayonne, N.J.

(Carry reality to extremes and poor *Batman* wouldn't have a place to hang his cape. To familiar-quote from Bartlett: "Human kind cannot bear very much reality."—Editor)

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE—EXTRA, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

DIRECT CURRENTS

When STANLEY takes his favorite MONSTER to camp, you can look for disaster—and what happens to "SPOT" shouldn't happen to a DOG! As if that weren't enough, STANLEY'S sitter invites a rock group over to rehearse. . . and dear ol' MONSTER helps 'em out in a contest! Then, to top off the ish, comes a carnival caper—with "SPOT" billed as a "hairy fat lady" and immigration agents after SCHNITZEL and SHAUNESSY! **July STANLEY AND HIS MONSTER, No. 110**, on sale April 23.

Holy team-ups! Look who's grabbed **THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD** now! It's BATMAN and WONDER WOMAN—with none other than that DOMINOED DAREDOLE, BATGIRL, guest-starred! Was there ever such a triumphant triumvirate on the super-hero scene? But there's more here than meets the eye, because the CAPED CRUSADER is caught in a tug-of-war between the AMAZING AMAZON and the MASKED MAID, while pursuing a snake-in-the-grass called COPPERHEAD! **July issue, No. 78**, on the stands April 23.

One man was clever enough to learn SUPERMAN'S secret identity! The other had the genius to penetrate the BATCAVE itself! But the two were deadly enemies. . . and while one was protected by SUPERMAN and BATGIRL, the other was aided by BATMAN and SUPERGIRL! Why were these new teams formed. . . and which one was helping the right man? The JIMMY OLSEN-ROBIN team found out. . . but someone made sure they'd NEVER TALK! **June WORLD'S FINEST, No. 176**, on sale April 25.



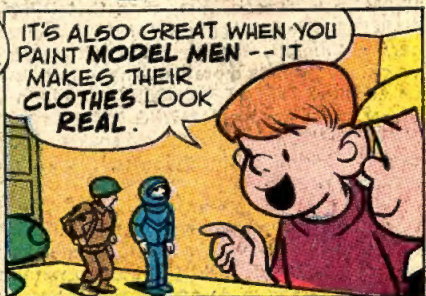
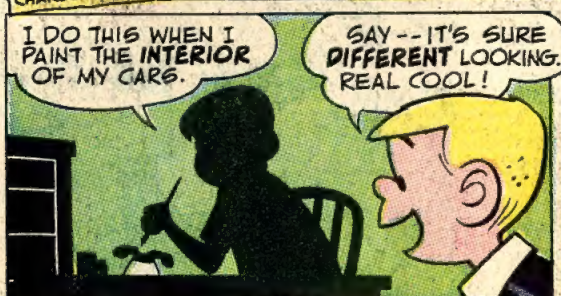
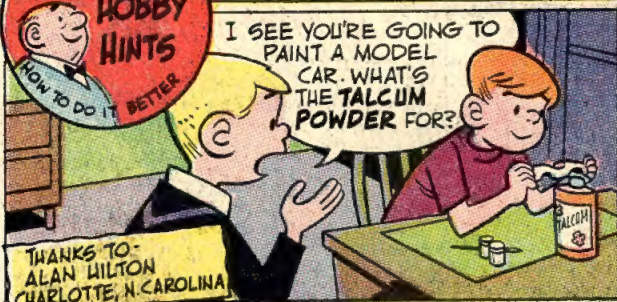
Can you picture SUPERBOY and MON-EL, mightiest members of the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, running like scared rabbits? Well, they have something to run from! His name's MORDRU. . . and his magical powers can make whole worlds shudder! So back the BOY BLOCKBUSTERS go. . . along with DUO DAMSEL and SHADOW LASS. . . to lose themselves in 20th-century SMALLVILLE! What happens to the **ADVENTURE ACES** then? Why not get the **June issue, No. 369** when it goes on sale, April 30, and see?

Who was the BATMAN-like figure that trailed the CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER as he made his nightly, criminal-hunting patrol of GOTHAM CITY? Why was it that BATMAN could see his look-alike. . . when no one else could? Was the MASKED MANHUNTER being "HUNTED—OR HAUNTED?" The exciting, eerie answer is revealed in the **June issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 376**, which goes on sale April 30! Of course, the ELONGATED MAN'll be ALONG, too!

Back to the twentieth century journeyed the time-travelers from the far future, to witness D DAY (DOOM DAY) for the JUSTICE LEAGUERS—an event that their history books had ALREADY recorded! "TIME SIGNS A DEATH-WARRANT FOR THE JUSTICE LEAGUE" is the story. . . and it comes to newsstands everywhere on April 25, in the **June issue of JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, No. 63!** If you miss this JLA adventure, you MAY forgive yourself. . . but it won't be easy!



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Twenty-eight out of this world, different button messages, four big (1 1/4" diameter) different colored plastic pins with a clear plastic lens. Have great fun wearing different colorful crazy buttons every day. So easy to pop-out and snap-in the glossy, zany messages, you can change them as many times a day as you like. Do-it-yourself buttons to surprise your friends with. This is the first time these beautiful NEW buttons have ever been offered, so be the first to wear them in your neighborhood. Send for them right now—Only \$1.00 plus 25¢ to cover handling and mailing costs.

HAVE GREAT FUN! WEAR A DIFFERENT BUTTON EVERY DAY!

RUSH COUPON TODAY

Color Inserts, Inc.
P. O. Box #785
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11202

Gentlemen:

Here's my \$1.00 plus 25¢ to cover handling costs.
Rush the 28 different 4-color button messages and 4 different color plastic buttons and lens to me. If not satisfied I may return merchandise for full refund.

Name

Address

City Zip State

ORDER AN EXTRA SET FOR YOUR FRIENDS!

Exclusive fun products by Mail



GROW LIVE MONSTERS

SCARIEST LIVING sensation of the century. 2 monsters in full color. Comes complete with space astronomer and full accessory kit. Will grow green monster hair right before your eyes. Complete kit

No. F-15 only \$1.00



LOUD NOSE BLOWER

Get roars of laughter -- insert this 'nose blower' in your handkerchief and blow. It sounds like the roof caved in! Really a riot!

No. F-23 . . . only 25c



TRICK BLACK SOAP

Looks like regular bar of soap. Watch your friends wash their faces -- in horror as faces get blacker and blacker. Completely harmless -- washes off with regular soap. Real fun!

No. F-26 only 25c

SUPER POWER-VISION



BINOCULAR EYEGLASSES

The binoculars you wear like eye-glasses! Rugged, strong, yet so light. Provide new fun for baseball, football, hunting, movies and T.V. Comparable to models selling at \$3.95. Now yours for only \$1.00 or \$2 for \$1.75.

No. F-27 only \$1.00 or \$2 for \$1.75

THROW YOUR VOICE



BE A VENTRILOQUIST. People will think your voice is coming from anywhere -- but from your instrument fits in your mouth, out of sight -- fool your teachers, friends, family. Free book on 'How to Become a Ventriloquist'.

No. F-24 only 25c

1001 things for FREE

A list that tells you where to send for free samples. Books, foreign stamps, coins, maps, show tickets, toys, films, post-ers, etc. They are yours for the asking. Hundreds of \$\$\$ worth of free offers.

No. F-12 only 50c
3 lists for only \$1.00



FLY IN ICE

Scare your friends! Just drop this life-like ice cube with a fly inside it into someone's drink and watch his eyes pop-ugh.

No. F-16 only 50c

PEPPER GUM

Hi, buddy, want a piece of gum? Hot-pepper gum makes mouth burn but is completely harmless -- a million laughs for parties, etc.

No. F-17 only 20c



SECRET BOOK SAFE

The Secret Book Safe hides itself on your bookshelf -- looks like a real book. Even if found, people can't open it because of secret combination -- only YOU can. Store your valuables, treasures, etc. Tough understructure is covered in simulated leather binding.

No. F-28 only \$1.00

SECRET SPY SCOPE

Full 6-power pocket pen-size field magnifier lets you 'peek' to your hearts content, watch sporting events, races, incl. 30-power full microscope to thrill naturalists. Full money back guarantee if not satisfied.

No. F-25 Only \$2.98

FANTASTIC TINY RADIO

This tiny, feather-weight radio operates without batteries, without tubes, but brings you years of listening pleasure. There's nothing to wear out, so there's nothing to replace.

No. F-13 . . . only \$1.98

JOY BUZZER

Shake hands and watch your friends jump 6 feet high. Completely harmless.

No. F-21 only 65c

SURPRISE PACKAGE

Surprise packages that will give you a thrill. We guarantee you more than your money's worth.

No. F-18 only 50c

REGENCY MAIL-ORDER Dept. ORC-6 BOX 826, NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. 14302

RUSH ME THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW. If I am not 100% delighted, I may return any part of my purchase after the ten day free trial for full refund.

ITEM NO.	NAME OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

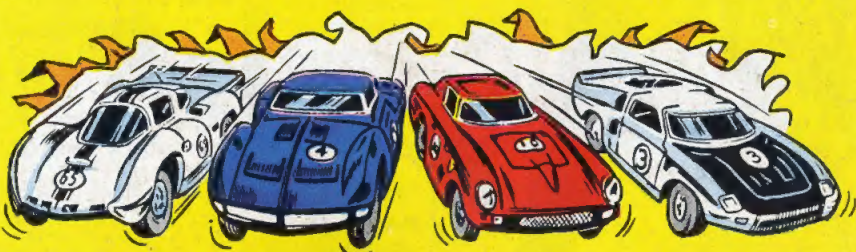
☐ 1 enclose plus 15c postage and shipping in cash, cheque or money-order.

☐ Enclose 10c for Catalogue.

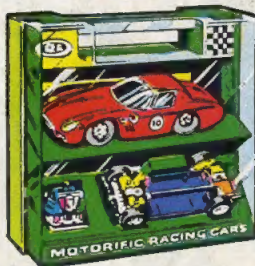
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NOW...THE HOTTEST WHEELS ON THE PIKE
...THE NEW RACERS FROM MOTORIFIC!®

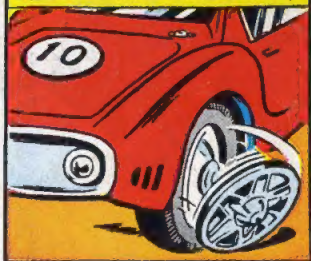


CHAPARRAL II
MAKO SHARK
FERRARI 250 GTO
FORD MARK II



GET ONE, GET A PAIR, GET 'EM ALL! THE HOT, NEW MOTORIFIC RACING CARS, WITH PRECISION PARTS DOWN TO THE SMALLEST DETAIL. EACH COMES IN A SLEEK CARRYING CASE. EACH COMES WITH INTER-CHANGEABLE MOTOR AND CHASSIS. EACH COMES READY TO ROLL!

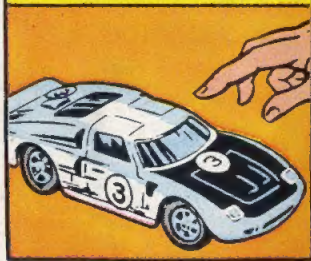
EACH COMES WITH KNOCK-OFF HUB CAPS,



MAG WHEELS AND RACING TIRES,



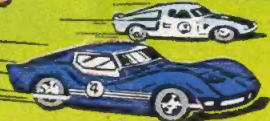
AND OFFICIAL RACING NUMBERS AND STRIPES.



THE RACE IS ON!

WATCH MY FERRARI BURN UP THE STRAIGHTAWAY!

BUT MY CHAPARRAL'S GONNA TAKE YOU ON THE NEXT TURN!



MOTORIFIC... IT'S TERRIFIC. IT'S

IDEAL



FLATTERMANN